

1-14-1997

## Daily Eastern News: January 14, 1997

Eastern Illinois University

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CLOUDY  
a high  
of 18°

INSIDE  
WGN-TV  
returns

Customer concern makes TCI  
reverse their decision to get rid  
of WGN-TV

PAGE 3

TUESDAY  
January 14, 1997

Eastern Illinois University  
Charleston, Ill. 61920  
Vol. 82, No. 78  
12 pages

“Tell the truth and don’t be afraid”

First  
place



Panthers  
win 84-77  
and gain a  
share of first  
place in  
OVC  
PAGE  
12

# Eastern fraternity not recognized by national chapter

## Kappa Delta Rho fraternity will not be able to renew local charter

By MATT ADRIAN  
Campus editor

The Rho Beta Chapter of Kappa Delta Rho has not been recognized by the national Fraternity, despite what fraternity members said last semester.

In the Dec. 5 issue of *The Daily Eastern News* Chris Lee, acting vice president for the fraternity, said the fraternity had renewed its charter and would be receiving it from the national office by the end of that week.

According to a Jan. 13 press release from the national office the fraternity’s charter had not been renewed. “Currently the Kappa Delta Rho does not have a recognized group on the EIU campus.”

Members of Kappa Delta Rho voted last August to send their charter back to the national office. The fraternity cited problems about the lack of funds it was receiving from the national office.

The members of the fraternity were unable to persuade the national office to buy Eastern members a fraternity house and subsequently lost the lease on the house.

Lee said in the Dec. 5 article that the fraternity had resolved the problems it had with

national headquarters. Shawn Hoke, a representative of the Kappa Delta Rho, said that there was no contact between the fraternity and the national office.

The fraternity can petition to the national fraternity board of directors to renew the charter. The appeal will be made on Feb. 8.

The members of the fraternity will be allowed to petition the board of directors because they voluntarily turned in their charter and not by the national office.

If Kappa Delta Rho does receive its charter it will not automatically be allowed back at Eastern.

If a fraternity turns in its charter and later renews the charter the fraternity must start over like it was a new fraternity on campus, said Interfraternity Council President Jason Amato. If a university has space for a fraternity then it must open an invitation to all fraternities to fill the empty position.

The university will narrow down the list of applicants and chose the fraternity it wants to fill the position. Amato said the campus is not currently open for expansion to allow another fraternity onto the campus.

Lee was unavailable for comment at press time.



ANNA BETZELBERGER/ Staff photographer

### Sold

Mike Skaggs, the owner of Poster World in Carterville, shows Jon Shilehy, a freshman computer business major, different posters that are in one of his binders. Skaggs will be in front of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Bookstore again today for the poster sale.

## Charleston man pleads not guilty to armed robbery of Credit Union

BY ROB STROUD  
Staff writer

The man charged with the Dec. 23 armed robbery of the Credit Union 1, 1250 Lincoln Ave., pled not guilty Monday.

Jamal H. Carillo, 24, 216 Polk Ave., has been charged with armed robbery, a class X felony.

Public Defender Lonnie Lutz, Carillo’s attorney, said, “The charges could bring a prison sentence of six to 30 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections.”

■ Eastern professor pulled over in search for robber.

STORY page 2

Credit union employees said a male entered the building and displayed what appeared to be a semi-automatic handgun at 10 a.m. on Dec. 23. The man gave a note to a teller demanding money.

The employees reported the man drove off in a tan Chevrolet with \$2,500 in stolen money.

Charleston Assistant Police Chief Ted Ghibellini said he

saw a car matching the description of the one from the robbery less than an hour later at University Shell, 419 W. Lincoln Ave.

Carillo was driving this car. He bought a new car from an employee at the station and drove off with another man.

Police followed the two men

See ROBBERY page 2

## IBHE optimistic Edgar will pass budget recommendation

By JESSICA BAKER  
Administration editor

Since the Illinois Board of Higher Education approved the operational and capital budgeting for Illinois colleges and universities, the IBHE’s budget recommendations have been submitted to Gov. Jim Edgar and the Illinois General Assembly for approval.

A spokesperson for Edgar said he hasn’t received every college or universities individual budget request.

“Right now Gov. Edgar is preparing for the State of the State address which is coming up,” the spokesperson said. “Towards the end of January, Gov. Edgar and his budget director will begin looking at the budget requests.”

“In the last three years, Gov. Edgar has approved the budget in which the IBHE has submitted to him and the General Assembly.”

-Ross Hodel,  
deputy director for the IBHE

Ross Hodel, the deputy director for the IBHE, said the IBHE is “consciously optimistic” that this year will be the fourth year Edgar has approved its budget recommendations.

“In the last three years, Gov. Edgar has approved the budget in which the IBHE has submitted to him and the General Assembly,” Hodel said.

The operational budget covers all costs not part of the

university’s fixed cost, which includes deferred maintenance, technology enhancements, heat, water, and electricity bills and faculty and staff salaries.

“In the last three years when we have prepared the budget, we look at the state’s economy and take that into consideration when we try for a stable and reasonable increase for the colleges and universities,” Hodel said.

Hodel said for a college or

university to receive a budget increase that is in line with the increasing costs to run a college, the IBHE asks it to take responsibilities with allocating money within the institution and asking for reasonable tuition increases.

On Jan. 7, the IBHE recommended that Eastern receive a \$3.5 million or 5.7 percent operational budget increase for the fiscal year 1998 if Edgar and the General Assembly approve the IBHE budget recommendations.

Eastern’s operating budget could total \$64,746,900. If the IBHE budget recommendation is approved, then Eastern’s 5.7 percent increase could be the largest percentage increase of all Illinois public universities for the next fiscal year.

For Eastern’s capital budgeting, which would be used to remodel Booth Library, the Fine Arts Center, Accessibility Improvements and upgrading campus air systems, the IBHE is recommending \$1.1 million.

Chris Merrifield, Eastern’s liaison to the capital, said the capital budgets are financed through bonds which are approved by the General Assembly.

Merrifield said there hasn’t been an increase in bond authority for two years.

Because the Senate and the House of Representatives have not been able to get a three-fifths majority, they haven’t been able to increase the limit of bonds issued so colleges and

See BUDGET page 2



# Professor may press charges against police

BY ROB STROUD  
Staff writer

An Eastern professor may press charges against state police who detained him after a robbery at Credit Union 1 on Dec. 23.

A story printed by the Charleston *Times-Courier* on Dec. 24 said Godson Obia, a professor in the department of geology and geography, and his 26-year-old son were misidentified as suspects in the robbery.

Obia said Monday he had been advised by his lawyer not to comment further on the incident.

The *Times-Courier* story said the two men were detained while they were getting the tires on their cars repaired at Neal Tire, 110 Fifth St.

When Obia and his son exited their car a state policeman had a gun pointed at Obia's son. The son was handcuffed until the police determined they had the wrong man.

Obia said the state trooper apologized for the mistake.

The *Times-Courier* reported Obia was planning on taking legal action after the incident.

## New law to help businesses

ROCK ISLAND (AP) – About 300,000 small Illinois businesses now can get help managing environmental regulations.

Gov. Jim Edgar on Monday expanded Illinois' Clean Break environmental program that encourages cooperation between businesses and environmental officials.

"The Clean Break program allows us to protect the environment and the bottom line by working in cooperation rather than confrontation," Edgar said.

Edgar made the announcement while visiting Scott-Ford Inc., an auto body repair shop in Rock Island and participant in the program.

The program educates small-business owners about environmental statutes such as waste disposal laws and pollution standards. The program also encourages positive working relationships as participants share information on steps to reduce potential pollution and comply with the laws.

The benefits are mutual – businesses avoid fines and officials enforce environmental laws.

The concept for the Clean Break program came from the 1994 recommendations of an Edgar task force.

## BUDGET

from page one

universities can make major repairs on their campuses.

"It is probably too early to tell what Edgar's budget recommendation will be for the college and universities until he delivers his budget request on the first Wednesday in March to the General Assembly," Hodel said.

He said after Edgar delivers his budget requests, the General Assembly will begin to debate components of the budget sometime in March. "The General Assembly is scheduled sometime around May 23 to make its decision on the budget," Hodel said.

## ROBBERY

from page one

to Carillo's residence and arrested them when they left.

The police found a BB gun resembling the semi-automatic used in the robbery after searching Carillo's residence.

Circuit Judge Ashton Waller initially set Carillo's bond at \$50,000. Public Defender Lonnie Lutz, who is representing Carillo, requested that the bond be reduced Monday.

Coles County State's Attorney Steve Ferguson said the bond was reduced to \$30,000 over Ferguson's objection's. Carillo has to post \$3,000 cash to get out on bond.

The pre-trial hearing was set for April 1 at 9 a.m. and the jury trial was set to start on April 15.

## The Daily Eastern News

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ANNA BETZELBERGER/ Staff photographer

### All alone

An Eastern student walks through an already-made path of snow in the Library Quad Monday afternoon.

## Board to investigate Gingrich tape

WASHINGTON (AP) – A potentially illegal recording of a telephone conversation involving Speaker Newt Gingrich was turned over to the criminal division of the Justice Department on Monday, the House ethics committee's chief counsel said.

The tape was sent to the committee by Rep. Jim McDermott of Washington state, the committee's ranking Democrat. A Florida couple who taped the call told a news conference Monday they gave the recording to McDermott last week.

In the latest of many bizarre turns to Gingrich's ethics case, McDermott sent the tape to the ethics committee Monday afternoon.

The committee's chief counsel, Theodore J. Van Der Meid, wrote McDermott that "the material you

sent to the committee at 4:33 p.m. this afternoon was not accepted." "By direction of the chair and after consultation with the chief of the criminal division of the Department of Justice, the contents of the envelope including the audio cassette tape and the cover letter were hand delivered to the Department of Justice early this evening," the letter said.

The cover letter was from McDermott to the committee, Van Der Meid said. He did not release it.

There was a quick Republican demand that McDermott step aside from the Gingrich investigation. He said he had given a response to the chairwoman of the ethics committee and would have no public comment.

## Mother Teresa may step down from order because of poor health

NEW DELHI, India (AP) – Ailing and tired, Mother Teresa is likely to step aside next month from the leadership of the order she founded nearly 50 years ago, associates said Monday.

Calcutta's archbishop, Henry D'Souza, said he will conduct a Feb. 2 vote for mother superior of the Missionaries of Charity.

His announcement came after a longtime friend said the 86-year-old nun confided last month that she wanted to step down because of health problems.

"This time, Mother has finally decided to leave the post of Superior General," the friend,

Sunita Kumar, said in an interview.

The Calcutta-based order's constitution calls for leadership elections every six years, but the 1996 vote was repeatedly delayed because Mother Teresa was so ill.


She tried to step down in 1990, but the other nuns re-elected her anyway. Kumar said Mother Teresa believes her followers will yield to her wishes this time.

The Missionaries of Charity has more than 4,000 nuns and runs 517 orphanages, homes for the poor, AIDS hospices and other charity centers around the world. About 100 nuns were elected as representatives from various areas to take

part in the vote for mother superior.

The Nobel Peace laureate continued to suffer pain in her spine Monday stemming from arthritis and osteoporosis. But Dr. Devi Shetty said the pain was not a cause for concern, and is not unusual for someone Mother Teresa's age. Her heart, lungs and kidneys were functioning well, he said.

Shetty was part of a team of doctors who performed angioplasty to remove blockages from two of Mother Teresa's coronary arteries late last year after she had a mild heart attack.



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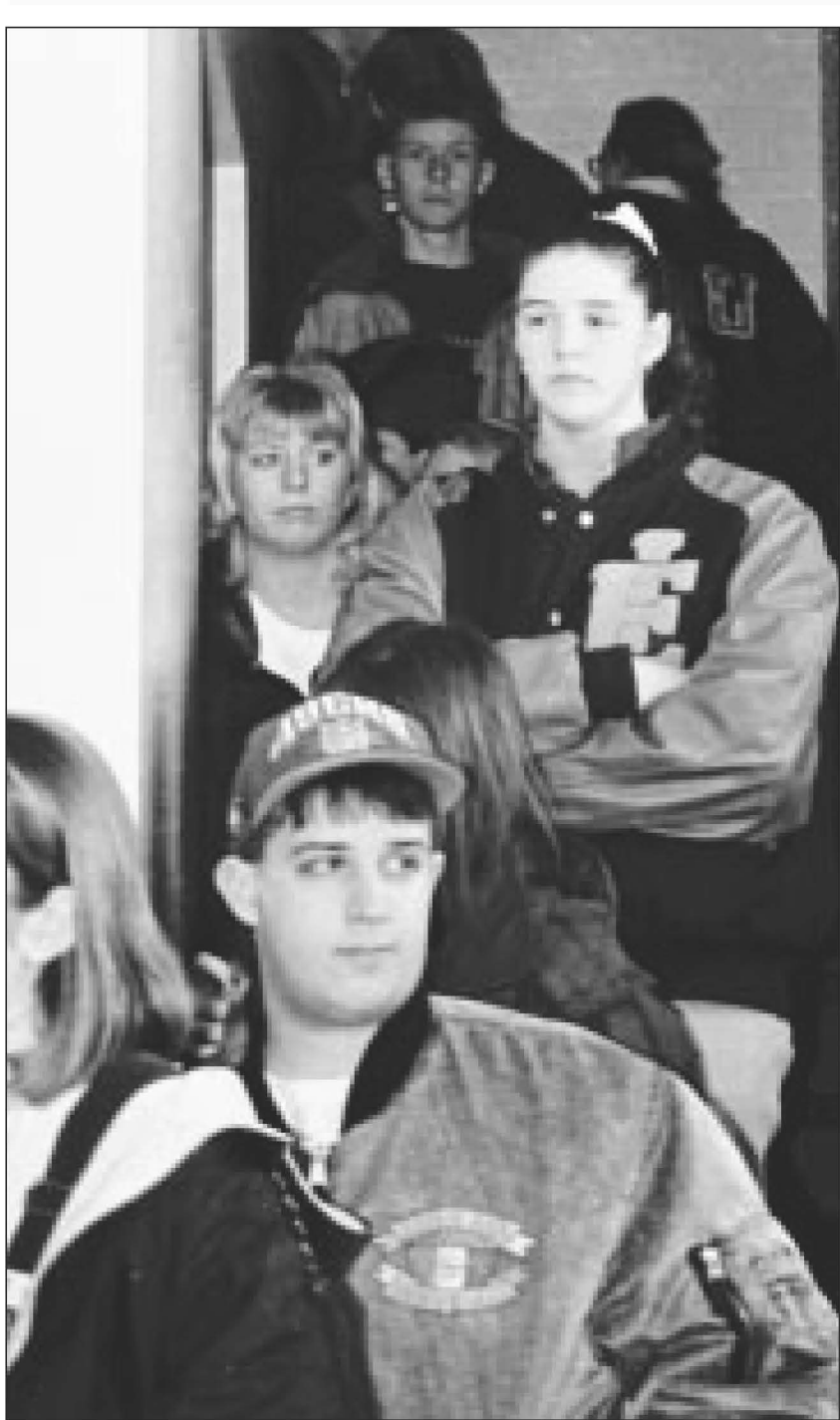
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Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union







ANNA BETZELBERGER/ Staff photographer

## Moving along

Eastern students wait in a line leading all the way upstairs, to get their books on Monday afternoon at the Textbook Rental. Classes resumed Monday after a month long winter break.

# Student vice president still looking to expand library hours

By ERIK LARSON  
Staff writer

Students who think the library hours should be extended may voice their opinion every Monday at 4 p.m. in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Lounge.

Kim Harris, student vice president for academic affairs, said last semester many students indicated through surveys handed out during the Student Government's "Speak Your Mind" program last semester that hours at Booth Library should be extended.

Students also said in the surveys that they thought the library should open at 7:30 a.m. instead of 8 a.m. on weekdays so students can use a photocopier.

"Right now we are in the planning stage to look where the problems are and address them and who they concern," Harris said.

“ Personnel costs have not been calculated, and I am not saying there will be any new costs to be covered because the library has not been contacted.”

-Allen Lanham,  
Dean of Booth Library

Harris said a lot of diverse opinions are given at the meetings.

"Representatives from academic clubs, social groups, student government and also random individuals who don't represent any group, but just heard about the meeting and attend give their opinions about what would be the best plan," Harris said.

Allen Lanham, Dean of Booth Library, said no contact has been made with the library to extend library hours this semester.

# Charleston stays tuned to WGN

By BRITT CARSON  
City editor

Eastern students and Charleston residents will be watching the Chicago Bulls and the Chicago Cubs on TV since TCI Cablevision of Southern Illinois announced they are reinstating WGN-TV.

"We (TCI) re-evaluated our position on not deleting WGN-TV in parts of the country's line-up," said Greg Evans, general manager of TCI for the Charleston, Mattoon and Decatur areas.

Evans said TCI received complaints from the public in December when they announced they were dropping WGN-TV from their programming line-up.

"Normally when we have a channel change, whether its an addition or a deletion, we usually hear from our customers," Evans said. "This time we heard a little heavier

response than normal on WGN."

TCI also reversed the decision to drop WGN in Wisconsin, Iowa, Michigan and Indiana. Evans said another deciding factor for TCI to reconsider was that WGN now broadcasts the Chicago Bulls games.

"The fact that WGN resolved the continued litigation with the Bulls swayed our position towards reconsidering," Evans said.

The National Basketball Association reached an agreement on Dec. 12 and the NBA licensed WGN to televise 12 Chicago Bulls games, said a press release.

A spokeswoman for WGN said they were pleased the TCI reconsidered and reinstated WGN.

Howard Price, who teaches Sports and the Media at Eastern, was happy with the decision to keep WGN.

"This is great news for sports

fans in this area," Price said. "I would have been very disappointed if TCI kept the decision to take off WGN. The Cubs are a local institution."

In December, TCI announced they were dropping WGN from their programming schedule and because WGN is a broadcast station and TCI had to pay additional fees and couldn't afford them. On Dec. 18, Evans heard concerns by citizens at a Charleston City Council meeting. The mayors of Charleston and Mattoon wrote letters voicing opposition to the dropping of WGN to the corporate office in Colorado.

"The cities, (Charleston and Mattoon), were very helpful in helping us communicate to our corporate office that WGN is a very popular channel in this area," said Evans. "We understand we are not hurting, but helping our corporate programming."

## Student discount cards available

### Cards to save money at 15 local businesses

By MINDY BUYCK  
Student government editor

Discount cards featuring price breaks from several local businesses, are now available to students, free of charge.

The card is sponsored by Student Government. Student Vice President for Public Affairs Brian Anderson said 8,000 of the cards will be printed but more can be printed if needed.

The card will be distributed in resident halls and will be available to off campus students through the Student Government Office located in the Martin Luther King Jr. Union.

Students must present the card before placing an

order. The card only can be used once a visit, however, can be used once each visit through Jan. 1, 1998.

The card offers students discounts on services or purchases from fifteen local merchants including Pizza Hut, Hairbenders II, TCBY Treats, Long John Silver's, Jimmy John's, Tanlines, Little Caesars, Positively 4th Street, Donna's Cleaners, Schlotzsky's Deli, Domino's Pizza, Speedlube, McHugh's, Econo Lodge and McDonald's.

Anderson said this is the first time he was aware of Student Government offering a discount card.

He said Panhellenic Council, the governing body of the sororities, offered a similar card in the past but students had to pay for the card.

Anderson said several other universities offer similar cards.

Anderson had looked at cards from Bradley University, Northern Illinois University and Northwestern University.



ANNA BETZELBERGER/ Staff photographer

## Piano woman

Rebecca Richardson, a junior theater major, practices piano in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Monday afternoon.

### Alternative Night

**75¢ 10oz. Drafts**

**Frozen Mixers**  
Sm. \$2<sup>10</sup> Lg. \$3<sup>10</sup>

**Lunch**  
Soup & Sandwich \$3.75  
Plate Lunch \$4.95

**Dinner**  
Hacienda Steak Sandwich \$4.25

345-7849 Express Lunch Daily

**Breadsticks 99¢ • Breadsticks 99¢ • Breadsticks 99¢ • Breadsticks 99¢ •**

**\$4.99** Large 1 Item Pizza  
plus tax

**Today only** **XL 1 item** **\$9.99**  
plus tax

**348-5454** 5 chicken wings for \$1.99  
your choice of sauce

**Breadsticks 99¢ • Breadsticks 99¢ • Breadsticks 99¢ • Breadsticks 99¢ •**



Editorials are the opinion of the Editorial Board.  
Columns are the opinion of the author.

Tuesday, January 14, 1997

PAGE 4

## Community should join together to battle nasty winter weather

The common sight of students sliding on ice covered sidewalks or trudging through a foot of snow has caused many students to blame the city for the inconvenience. In reality, the students really should be pointing the finger at local property owners.

Removing snow and ice from sidewalks in Charleston is not the responsibility of the city workers. Once sidewalks have been put into place, the responsibility of maintenance falls on the property owners' shoulders. Homeowners and landlords need to clear walkways for the safety, as well as convenience, of all pedestrians.

In a college town such as Charleston, the primary mode of transportation for most residents is walking. This is made increasingly difficult with the inches of winter snowfalls still covering the ground and frigid temperatures causing ice to make the walkways slick and dangerous.

Apartment complex owners and homeowners need to make sure their property is cleared for the safety of their tenants, themselves and passing pedestrians.

The city is responsible for the city streets, and workers are doing their best to keep the roads safe for motorists. Residents, property owners as well as renters, need to take the proper steps to ensure walkways are safe for pedestrians.

Upon returning to the university, students and other Charleston residents have been welcomed with treacherous sidewalks and walkways, slicked with ice and covered with snow. Property owners taking a few minutes to try and clear these paths and even spreading some sand or rock salt would greatly increase the safety level of the community.

Although it is the main responsibility of property owners and landlords to clean off sidewalks and walkways, off-campus students and other Charleston residents also should take the initiative to make this a safer, more convenient community.

Clearing walkways and throwing down salt to ensure safety among pedestrians will benefit the whole community.

### “today’s quote

It snowed and snowed, the whole world over, snow swept the world from end to end.

—Boris Pasternak

I gave the gift of jive this Christmas.

I didn't know when I bought the book *Juba to Jive, an African American Slang Dictionary* by Clarence Major, that the book actually could be the textbook for Ebonics. But what I did know was that if Cab Calloway could speak jive, my friends could too.

Before I wrapped the book, I took a yellow highlighter and marked the words I thought my friend should incorporate into everyday language. I marked quite a few, ranging from “signify” to “cat” to “kopasetic.”

The words in the dictionary were and still are spoken by African tribesmen, jazz musicians, black urban dwellers and gangsters.

The words are accepted as everyday street talk.

But those words probably shouldn't be used in a job interview, any professional settings or in a class room.

Or should they?

The Oakland School Board in Oakland, Calif., approved a resolution that would require the schools to treat Ebonics as if it were Spanish or French. That means that teachers now are required to acknowledge Ebonics as the primary language for some students. Most teachers in Oakland already knew that.

The measure has drawn criticism from everyone ranging from California Gov. Pete Wilson to NAACP President Kweisi Mfume to Secretary of Education Richard Riley.

According to the Jan. 13 issue of *Newsweek*, more people responded to an America Online poll about Ebonics than they did to a poll asking whether O.J. Simpson was guilty.

Obviously the Oakland School Board Ebonics resolution is a hot topic. But it is a topic that is not completely understood.

The Oakland School Board resolution now requires teachers to teach students in the students' primary language. This, they believe, will help uphold “legitimacy and richness.”



NATALIE GOTT  
Regular columnist

“Many African Americans said the Ebonics proposal was a slap in their faces. But it shouldn't be.”

They also believe that the passage of this resolution can help students master standard English.

The resolution calls for teachers to teach students to translate from Ebonics to standard English. And, that is a good idea.

To do this, teachers will be required to learn Ebonics so they can understand certain phrases that some students use.

Is that so bad?

Imagine: A 7-year-old student

telling her teacher that last night she saw a guy get “glocked” in her “hazy.”

My mother is a teacher and if one of her students ever made that comment to her, she would have no idea how to respond. While my mother does not work in a school district where Ebonics is a common language, other teachers who do work in schools where Ebonics is spoken have to be able to understand the language.

The teacher could ask the student to repeat what she said, in hopes that the student would rephrase the statement. But after a child is asked to repeat virtually everything he or she says, he or she will lose self confidence. And, without self confidence, the child has little chance of succeeding in his or her educational career.

Many African Americans said the Ebonics proposal was a slap in their faces. But it shouldn't be.

The students won't be punished or criticized for the words or grammar they use. They will instead be taught standard English, which will help them succeed in their education and in their careers.

Jesse Jackson, head of the Rainbow Coalition, criticized the resolution at first. After the Oakland School District rephrased the proposal, James told *Newsweek* that the resolution would help teach proficient English “without demeaning the students.”

And that is what should be done because no student should be ashamed to speak in the classroom.

—Natalie Gott is associate news editor for *The Daily Eastern News*. Her e-mail address is [cunmg@bgu.edu](mailto:cunmg@bgu.edu).



## Politician gives thanks to various campaign supporters, volunteers

Dear editor:

At the conclusion of a very busy campaign season for the U.S. Senate, I would like to take a moment and give thanks. My thanks to many local and regional officials who endorsed and supported me. Also, I would like to extend a special thank you to the hundreds of volunteers who put up signs, made phone calls and knocked on doors.

To my supporters as well as those who supported my opponent, I urge you to continue believing and working for a better tomorrow for our children.

Al Salvi  
former U.S. Senate candidate

## your turn

### Science clubs donate more than \$100 after November 'coin war'

Dear editor:

I want to extend a big Thank You to all the people who supported the Science Building Coin War on Nov. 18 and 19.

The chemistry club, physics club, geo-science club and psychology club all united for a good cause and some friendly competition. All of the money raised was donated to the Charleston Food Pantry. The total amount was \$122.81. This figure includes more than \$60 in pennies alone! Only \$14 was in dollar bills, and the rest was in change. This just goes to show a little change can go a long way.

Again, thank you to the students and staff who helped support their departments as well as this worthy cause.

Sara Burton  
American Chemistry Society  
secretary

## Letter policy

The Daily Eastern News encourages letters to the editor concerning local, state, national or international issues.

Letters should be less than 350 words. For the letter to be printed, the name of the author, the author's address, telephone number, year in school and current major must be included. If necessary, letters will be edited according to length and space at the discretion of the editorial page editor or editor in chief.

Anonymous letters will not be printed.



# Home care unsure of future location

By **BRITT CARSON**  
City editor

The Lincolnland Visiting Nurse Association Inc. is unsure when they will rebuild their corporate office that was destroyed in a fire in December.

Kim Spencer, vice president of communications, said the board of directors will make the decision.

“We will continue to operating in Coles County,” Spencer said. “The decisions surrounding the new corporate facility is up to the board of directors.”

Spencer said the corporate office also housed the Daybreak Adult Care program that had to be relocated in The First Presbyterian Church in Mattoon and re-opened on Jan. 6. No one was injured in the fire.

Spencer said the corporate office, which used to be locate on Loxa Road, relocated to their office in Mattoon the day after the fire on Dec. 22. Spencer said she was unsure when the decision

would be made.

“We are in the process of making plans-it should be soon,” Spencer said. Spencer said Lincolnland Visiting Nurse Association is going to move their corporate office to a temporary location at 100 Professional Plaza. All of the clinical home health staff serving the Coles County area worked out of separate branch offices until the fire.

Lincolnland Visiting Nurse Association was created from generous donations from the Coles County community in 1991.

“Lincolnland Visiting Nurses Association was established in 1972 with the community’s support. Almost 20 years later, when it was time to build a new corporate office, the community gave it’s support,” said Connie Oetinger, the president and CEO of Lincolnland, in a press release.

“Now in the face a of tragedy, Lincolnland is again overwhelmed by the community’s generosity and kindness.”



## Spin doctor

*Tanya Crevier, a professional basketball handler, spins 10 basketballs at one time during her performance during halftime of the women’s basketball game.*

ANNA BETZELBERGER/ Staff photographer

# Eastern receives national merit award for safety

By **MATT ADRIAN**  
Campus editor

The National Safety Council presented Eastern an Award of Merit for “excellence in safety.”

The award is given in conjunction with the Complete Safety program sponsored by the National Safety Council.

The program provides the university with a set of guidelines to measure safety standards and provide input into improving campus safety.

The program also provides a report that critiques the safety program at the universities and makes recommendations for safety improvements on campus.

Gary Hanebrink, Eastern’s campus safety

officer, said he hasn’t received the council report.

The Campus Safety Health Environmental Management Association, a sub-group of the National Safety Council, acted as the judges.

The judges are directors of environmental health and safety departments from other major universities.

Hanebrink said the judges look at the policies and procedures that several universities follow.

This includes training programs for faculty and students, safety procedures and accident rates.

Accident rates for employees are decreasing, Hanebrink said. He said that providing staff

with safety information helps in “creating a safety culture,” that helps to decrease the number of accidents on campus.

Hanebrink said that he thinks that steps could be taken to improve lab safety education for the faculty and students.

Eastern has been good at staying up-to-date with safety programs, Hanebrink said.

He cited the Department of Environmental Health and Safety web page as an example.

The web page provides people with the campus safety manual, lab safety information, and links to other safety related cites.

The web page is located at (<http://www-.eiu.edu/~environ/>).

# \$1,315 in valuables stolen from student’s residence

By **BRITT CARSON**  
City editor

An Eastern student reported more than \$1,000 worth of items stolen from his residence during winter break.

James B. Lewis, of 1511 Division St. Apt. 10, reported to police that he left his residence on Dec. 16 and locked the deadbolt on the front door, police reports stated.

When Lewis returned Saturday, he discovered the deadbolt was unlocked and the door frame was slightly bent, police reports stated.

Lewis discovered his Hewlett Packard Laserjet printer, valued at \$250, and a square dome tent, also valued at \$250, were missing.

Lewis’s roommate, Kimberly Wroblewski, 19, reported a 14k gold emerald ring valued at \$600 and a pair of emerald earrings valued at \$150 were missing, police reports stated.

Lewis reported \$1,315 in items were missing.

In other city police news:  
■ Sabrina Dycus, 18, of 1120 Jefferson Ave., was cited with consumption of alcohol by a minor and driving too fast for conditions. Matthew Smith, 19, of 1207 Monroe Ave., was cited with consumption of alcohol by a minor, unlawful use of a driver’s license and possession of false evidence of age.

Both were cited at 1:34 a.m. Sunday on Harrison Avenue.

# Faculty Senate to hold meeting

The Faculty Senate’s first meeting of the spring semester will be at 2 p.m. today in the former BOG Room in Booth Library.

The agenda for the senate meeting had not been decided at the time of publication, and Chair Gail Richard was unavailable for comment.

The senate will seat new senate member Gail Lockart, who is an associate professor of economics. Lockart, who was elected in September, will fill Jayne Ozier’s seat while she is on sabbatical leave.

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# Metal manufacturer builds, sells caskets

GURNEE (AP) – After three family funerals within a few years, Maynard Cheris began to think something was wrong.

The caskets bought for his mother and in-laws should have cost a fraction of what they did, he said. So the metal goods manufacturer decided to do something about it.

He now creates caskets and sells them directly to the public.

A sign with 3-foot-high characters touting “Caskets \$799” has caught the eye of thousands of motorists on Route 41 since Cheris opened his business, Impressive Casket.

“I’ve made steel shelving, tennis rackets, auto parts,”

Cheris said.

“I have a sense of what things cost,” he said. “It’s not \$2,000 or \$3,000 or even more. This is not complicated.” Cheris and colleague Joey Lloyd, 28, of Beach Park, along with one other worker, make 10 versions of steel caskets from scratch.

It takes one employee about a day to make a casket from start to finish, Lloyd said. The company delivers free within a 50-mile radius of Gurnee and can ship anywhere in the country within 24 hours.

Funeral directors, casket salesmen and even a few outraged mourners who paid for a high-priced funeral have visited the Impressive Casket showroom, Lloyd said.

# Edgar aide to form business

SPRINGFIELD (AP) – Gary Mack, a longtime aide to Gov. Jim Edgar, is leaving the state payroll Feb. 1 as the governor’s deputy press secretary to start his own public relations firm.

Mack said Monday he will focus on public affairs issues and has already lined up some clients. The location of his firm is still undecided, though it is expected to be in the Chicago area.

“He’s done a good job for the governor,” said Mike Lawrence,



Edgar’s press secretary. “The governor respects him very highly and considers him to be one of his most valuable aides.” Mack first began working for Edgar in 1985 as a spokesman in the then-secretary of state’s Springfield office.

After Edgar was elected governor in 1990, Mack moved to Chicago, where he specialized in handling the needs of Chicago radio and television stations.

Mack himself was in the news last May when he, Edgar and five others were aboard the governor’s twin-engine airplane as it was struck by lightning near Peoria. No one was injured, but the plane made an emergency landing after the lightning caused fire and smoke.

# State board owes \$52,000 hotel bill

SPRINGFIELD (AP) – Bill collectors are dunning the State Board of Education for a hotel bill of almost \$52,000 following a conference on the education of homeless children that turned into a financial fiasco.

Hotel reservations, food and gifts such as T-shirts and tote bags were wasted when the number of participants who showed up for the September 1995 conference fell far short of an estimate, state officials said.

The State Board of Education, however, says it doesn’t owe the hotel bill because no one with the authority to approve the expenditure signed off on it. It says the employee who promised to pay exceeded his authority.

Officials said senior consultant John Edwards told Chicago’s Hyatt Regency that the National Association of State Coordinators for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth would pay the hotel’s bill.

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# 14 villagers killed by Algerian rebels

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — An armed group attacked a village south of the capital, killing 14 people by slitting their throats and sticking some of their heads on stakes.

The attack, first reported by witnesses and later confirmed by security forces, was the latest in a wave of terror leading up to the fifth anniversary Saturday of a military-led coup that sparked a Muslim insurgency.

The armed group descended on the small village of T'Binet, near the highway linking Algiers to the city of Blida, about 30 miles south of the capital.

T'Binet, protected by volunteers organized in state-sponsored "self-defense groups," was the latest village targeted by militants.

About 10 men claiming to be members of the violent Armed



Islamic Group cut the heads off a number of the victims and mutilated their bodies, witnesses said.

Car bombings around the capital and massacres in rural areas have left about 330 dead in the past two months, despite claims by President Liamine Zeroual's government that the violence is only "residual terrorism." More than 60,000 people have died since the government canceled January 1992 elections that the Islamic Salvation Front was poised to win. The government also banned the party, which aims to establish a state based on Islamic law.

## Yeltsin in hospital with pneumonia for 2 days

MOSCOW (AP) — Pneumonia likely will keep Boris Yeltsin in the hospital for at least two more days, according to a spokesman who warned Monday against being "too optimistic" about the president's release.

The Russian leader fell ill just two weeks after returning to his Kremlin office following heart surgery.

"There is no indication that President Yeltsin will be discharged tomorrow or the day after tomorrow," said his spokesman, Sergei Yastrzhembsky.

He added that Yeltsin, who was hospitalized Wednesday, would not be checking out until he's made a full recovery.

The president has been feeling well enough to do paperwork in his suite in Central Clinical Hospital and he receives regular visits from his wife, Naina, who is in the same hospital with the flu, Yastrzhembsky said.

Yeltsin spoke by telephone Monday with Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin about the economy, the budget and crime, the presidential press service said.

Yeltsin was re-elected in July for a term that runs to 2000, but he's been largely sidelined for the past six months with heart trouble.

The 65-year-old president's political rivals have questioned his fitness for office. On Sunday, presidential hopeful Alexander Lebed, the former national security adviser fired by Yeltsin in October, called Yeltsin an "old, sick man" unlikely to complete his term.

# Man gets jailed for garbage waste

BEIJING (AP) — A Chinese court sentenced a U.S. businessman to 10 years in jail Monday for smuggling garbage and medical waste into China.

William Ping Chen also was ordered to leave the country, according to the official Xinhua News Agency. It was not clear whether he would be expelled immediately or after serving his prison sentence.

Chen was convicted of illegally importing 238 tons of garbage, including banned household and medical waste, from the United States into Shanghai from July to December 1995.

Xinhua said Chen was motivated by profit and lied that the garbage was waste paper.

Factories in China do a thriving business recycling waste paper, fabric and other scrap from overseas.

David Miller, spokesman for the U.S. consulate

in Shanghai, said Chen was still in custody. The consulate asked Chinese authorities to provide a written copy of the verdict, he said.

Chen, 56, was detained in June and convicted after a public trial Dec. 2 in Shanghai, Xinhua said. U.S. officials were present at the trial and today's sentencing. Chen can appeal, Miller said.

Diplomats in China have refused to provide details on Chen's case, including his business or hometown, because he has not signed a waiver to U.S. privacy laws.

Chen was director of Shanghai Tongyi Paper Ltd. Co., a U.S.-China joint venture, Xinhua said.

The court said he evaded customs checks and violated customs regulations in importing the garbage, seriously harming China's environment and threatening the health of its people. Xinhua said Chen confessed and was fined \$60,000.

## Peruvian rebels fire a dozen shots inside ambassador's compound

LIMA, Peru (AP) — With a burst of gunfire that sent police scrambling for cover Monday, leftist Peruvian rebels who have held 74 hostages for nearly a month underscored their demand that hundreds of jailed comrades be freed.

About a dozen shots were fired inside the Japanese ambassador's compound where the heavily armed guerrillas are holed up with their hostages. No one was hurt, said Michel Minnig, a Red Cross representative who visited the compound minutes before the shooting and returned there afterward.

Police outside the residence's

fortress-like walls dived for cover and drew their weapons when the shots were fired at 11:20 a.m.

It was the biggest burst of gunfire since the Tupac Amaru guerrillas stormed the compound Dec. 17. Twice previously, the rebels fired a couple of shots before dawn in what Red Cross officials later were told was warning fire.

Asked what prompted Monday's fusillade, Minnig replied, "We are trying to figure that out." Hours earlier, the rebels had requested an interview with a local television station to respond to a government proposal to form a peace commission to oversee negotiations.

The request, conveyed by a sign placed in a window of the ambassador's residence, could complicate efforts to jump-start hostage negotiations.

Government officials have tried to isolate the rebels by denying them access to the news media and cutting the compound's telephone and electricity service. Officials say previous hostage negotiations were derailed by journalists who slipped into the compound to interview the rebels.

The government didn't comment on Monday's request. The local station, Channel 4, said it was ready to interview the rebels with the government's permission.

## Belarus executes 38 murderers by gunshot to the head last year

MINSK, Belarus (AP) — Belarus executed 38 convicted murderers, all by a gunshot to the head, in 1996.

Nine of them were convicted last year and the rest in 1994-1995, the Interfax news agency reported Monday, quoting officials in the prosecutor's office.

The Supreme Court of the former Soviet republic last year commuted the death sentences of six

people to 15 years in prison, the report said.

A Supreme Court judge, Igor Andreyev, warned last fall that the Council of Europe, the continent's leading human rights organization, may refuse to admit Belarus if it continues to impose the death penalty.

Belarus executed 40 people in 1994 and 46 in 1995, Andreyev said.

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# Citadel president gives cadets warning against harassment

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — Any cadet accused of harassing female classmates at The Citadel will be thrown off campus while the charges are investigated, the school's president warned Monday after two of its first women students resigned.

Starting immediately, all reported incidents of hazing will be forwarded to law enforcement agencies for possible prosecution, interim President Clifton Poole told reporters.

"We will remove the alleged offender from campus immediately and sort it out administratively or legally or both at a later date," Poole said after addressing the approximately 1,800 cadets in private. Removal from campus amounts to suspension while the investigation is under way.

Under the old policy, the school investigated incidents but only turned over the reports if an individual wanted to pursue criminal charges, said Bryant Butler, the highest-ranking cadet officer.

"We have made mistakes. It appears we have missed the mark at times. We will correct those errors," Poole said.

After meeting with the cadets, Poole said, "the entire corps understands the cadet leadership is to administer the rules, not make the rules." Two of the four women who entered the military college last fall, breaking the school's male-only tradition after a U.S. Supreme Court ruling, announced Sunday they would not return for the spring semester.

# O.J. admits adultery

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — A choked-up O.J. Simpson told jurors Monday he was ashamed to say he contemplated suicide after his ex-wife's slaying. He also acknowledged cheating on his wife during their tumultuous marriage but denied that makes him a liar.

"You have lied repeatedly, haven't you?" asked plaintiffs' attorney Daniel Petrocelli.

"No," said Simpson.

It was the Simpson's second day on the stand as a defense witness at his wrongful-death trial, with his lawyer trying to undo the damage done when he was questioned by the plaintiffs' side in November. Nearly 100 people lined up for courtroom passes, some arriving as early as 4:15 a.m. in the chill.

In other testimony, Simpson said that before the slaying of ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson, his relationship with girlfriend Paula Barbieri had been deepening.

In fact, he said, at a charity event for an Israeli hospital, held at a lavish home one day before the slayings, he and Miss Barbieri even talked about "filling a house like that up with babies." Miss Barbieri has testified that a few hours after that date, however, she left a telephone message breaking up with Simpson.

Simpson's accusers contend the phone call helped drive him to murder.

A flurry of objections interrupted Petrocelli's first attempt to explore the question of adultery, and attorneys rushed back and forth to the bench arguing the point. Judge Hiroshi Fujiskai allowed the questions.

"In the course of your relationship with Nicole, you were unfaithful to her?" Petrocelli asked the former football star.

"From time to time, yes," said Simpson.

# Fatal accident not first driving offense for Georgia diplomat

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Republic of Georgia diplomat held responsible for a fatal accident 10 days ago had at least two earlier traffic violations during his U.S. stay, the State Department said Monday.

Spokesman Nicholas Burns made the disclosure after Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze said the envoy was fined a minimum of three times for drunken driving in Georgia.



Shevardnadze has said he is prepared to waive the diplomatic immunity of Gueorgui Makharadze, the No. 2 diplomat at the Georgian Embassy. He was involved in a high-speed accident in downtown Washington that took

the life of a 16-year-old girl and could face second-degree murder charges.

Over the past year or two, Burns said, Makharadze was accused of traffic violations in the District of Columbia and Virginia. He had no further details.

Burns said the State Department routinely suspends the driver's licenses of diplomats accused of serious traffic violations, such as speeding or drunk driving.

# Officials say U.S. needs to increase spending on international affairs

WASHINGTON (AP) — A 1990s trend of cutting U.S. government spending on international affairs must be reversed or America will face an "influence gap" on the world stage, a group of high-level former foreign policy officials says.

In a statement released Monday, the group urged President Clinton to push Congress to boost foreign spending in 1998 to \$21 billion, up from about \$19 billion in the current budget, and to maintain the higher level for several years.

"We can afford to do more. We cannot afford to do less," the statement said.

The group, which includes former secretaries of state George P. Shultz and Cyrus R. Vance as well as former national security advisers Brent

Scowcroft and Zbigniew Brzezinski, said spending on international affairs has fallen nearly 20 percent, in inflation-adjusted numbers, since the early 1990s.

They said Clinton administration and congressional plans for balancing the federal budget by 2002 could mean cutting foreign spending by another 30 percent.

"The American people do not want to swap a budget deficit for a security deficit," the former officials said in their statement.

"We suspect most Americans would be alarmed if these proposed budget cuts go through only to discover that America faces an influence gap in world affairs as we enter the 21st century."

# Lawsuit against Clinton continues

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court aggressively questioned both sides Monday in a battle over the sexual-harassment lawsuit against President Clinton, expressing skepticism about judges managing a president's time yet leery of having him appear above the law.

As the politically charged case was argued just one week before Clinton's second-term inauguration, the justices gave little indication whether they will let Paula Jones' lawsuit go forward while he is in office.

A decision, which also could

affect future presidents, is expected by July.

The hour-long argument did not address the merits of Jones' allegation that Clinton propositioned her in a Little Rock hotel room in 1991 when he was governor of Arkansas. Clinton has denied her allegation and has said he cannot recall ever meeting the former Arkansas state employee.

Instead, lawyers debated whether any part of the case can proceed during the next four years. The court has never before been asked to decide if a sitting president can be sued over acts unrelated to his

job, whether they took place before or during his term.


The justices sounded skeptical about arguments from both sides.

Justice Anthony M. Kennedy said allowing judges to decide whether a president is too busy to be entangled in litigation may be too intrusive, and "argues strongly for the absolute privilege that (Clinton's lawyers) are suggesting."

Justice Antonin Scalia, although saying he was also concerned about giving trial judges too much authority over a president, voiced doubts about fashioning a blanket rule.

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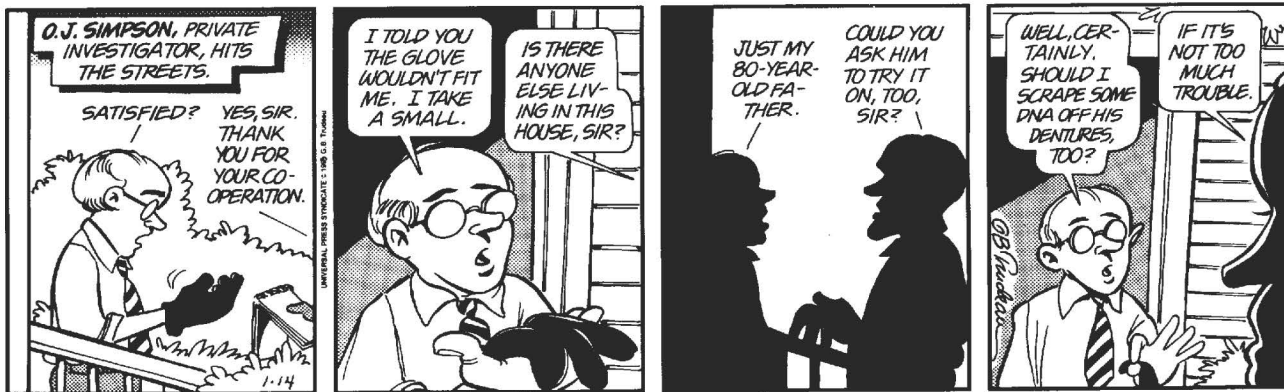
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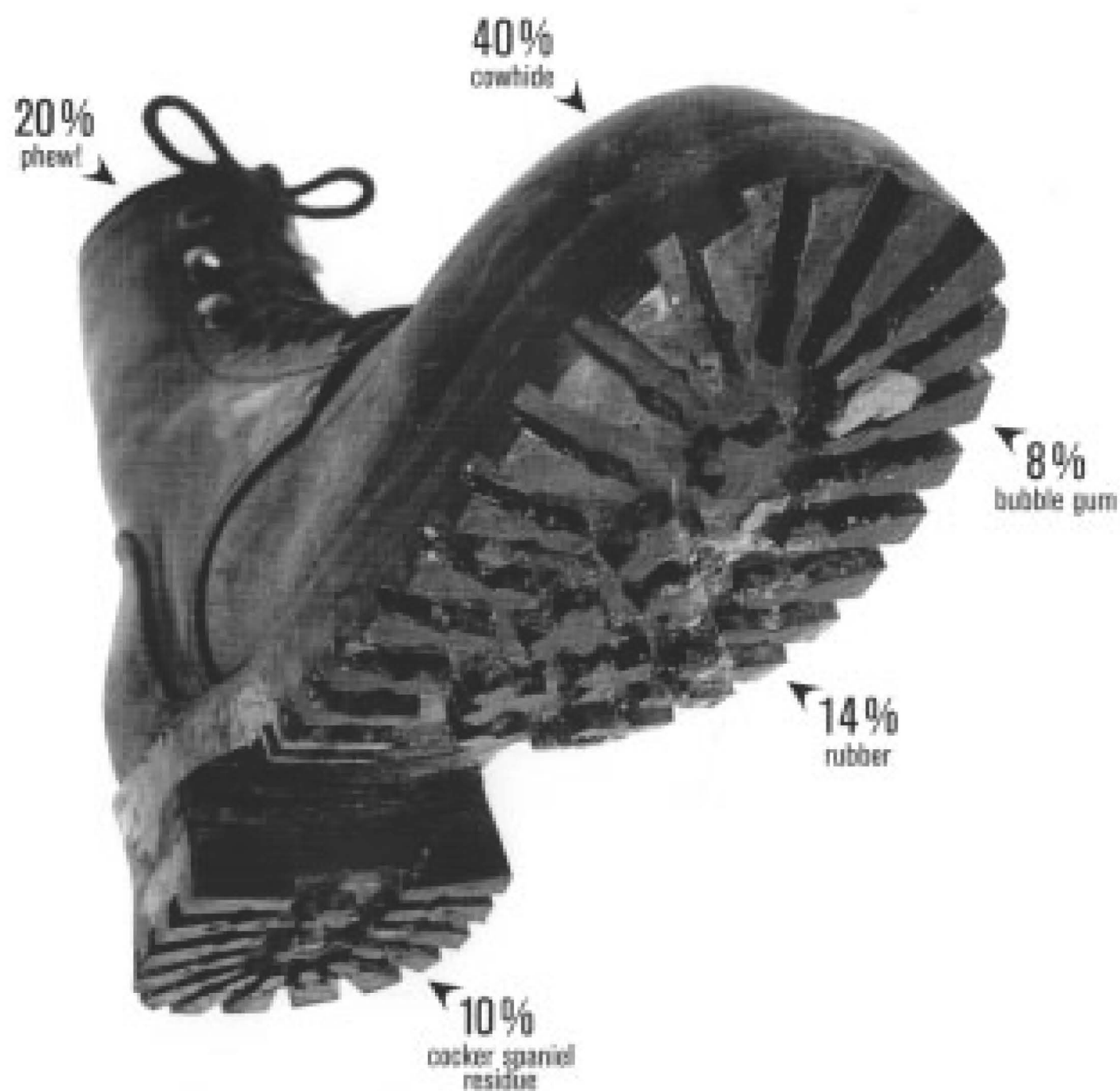


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# Rebounding edge keys Colonels' victory

## Inability to avoid turnovers also costly in defeat

By DREW GRANGER  
Staff writer

Eastern Illinois' women's basketball head coach John Klein said that rebounding and ball control would be important keys to beating the Lady Colonels of Eastern Kentucky. The Lady Panthers would have to limit turnovers and keep Eastern Kentucky's second chance points to a minimum.

Rebounding came into play early in Eastern Kentucky's 79-69 win over Eastern, as the Lady Colonels shot and rebounded the ball three times before Eastern Illinois could come down with the fourth rebound and clear the ball.

At the half Eastern Kentucky had double the total rebounds of the Panthers, 11-22.

The Lady Colonels collected nine offensive boards and 13 defensive to the Panthers' two offensive and nine defensive.

"The thing that was really stressed was getting the job done after the shot," sophomore guard

Angie Patzner said. "And that's something that we didn't do tonight."

"They had twice as many rebounds as we did at half time," junior guard Nora Hendrix said. "We're playing good defense until they shoot it and then we let them get like two or three other shots."

Klein echoed his players' thoughts.

"I thought that we were beaten on the in the first half," Klein said. "I think they had seven more offensive rebounds then we did at half-time and that was a big difference in the game going to the locker room."

"As the game unfolded in the second half, I think we did a much better job on the boards," Klein added.

"And finished pretty even with Eastern Kentucky."

The Lady Panthers did a better job of pulling down misses in the second half.

Where as the Lady Colonels collected another 16 rebounds for a game total of 38, the Lady Panthers added 26 more boards to their total to finish up at 37 for the game.

The ball control game, however, started off even.

Each team committed 11 turnovers in the first half.

Both teams swiped the ball from the opposition three times in the first frame.

But in the second half Eastern Kentucky took the edge in the holding on to the ball. Eastern Illinois gave up the ball nine more times, finishing with 20 turnovers, and could only pick up another 2 steals.

Eastern Kentucky committed another seven acts of theft, finishing with 10 steals in addition to giving the ball up just four more times.

Neither Hendrix nor Patzner felt that Eastern Kentucky's full court press was the cause of the turnovers.

"I don't think the press hurt us," Patzner said.

"We broke the press," Hendrix said. "We couldn't get into any kind of offense."

Klein had been looking forward to the Eastern Kentucky press, saying the team was excited about facing it. But he agreed, as well, that it wasn't the press that caused the lady Panthers miscues.

"I think it was just their tenacity on defense," he said.

"The don't play a real structured defense, it's pretty much they just get out and get after you with their athletic ability. Their just quick and agile and they make it difficult for you all over the floor."



ANNA BETZELBERGER/Staff photographer  
*Eastern's Allison Lee (44) attempts a shot during Monday night's 79-69 loss to conference foe Eastern Kentucky at Lantz Gymnasium.*

## LESTER *from page 12*

streak (4 games) since the end of the 1994-95 season.

If anything can be said about the basketball team right now, it's that they are sitting pretty in regards to seeding in the conference tourney.

Still, there is a lot of college basketball left to be played, meaning the season is far from over.

Remember, playing in a conference means that a team must face each conference foe twice

## TOP *from page 12*

emotion from playing in a new league and not knowing what to expect."

Eastern did commit 13 second-half turnovers as opposed to three in the first half.

"You've got to give them (Eastern Kentucky) credit," Peckinpough said. "They came out and put together a run. It was obvious that we were tired."

The Colonels kept chipping at the Panther lead, and finally had the deficit cut to five points when guard Chris Fitzgerald nailed down two of his 10 points with a jumper.

From that point, the Panthers only scored from the free throw line as the Colonels fouled to conserve time. But Eastern hit 10 of 12 shots and never let the lead dip below five.

## STREAK *from page 12*

score 56-43.

"We had a turnover on an inbound's play and we just lost it from there," Patzner said.

Seven of the 12 points in the run came from junior forward Lisa Pace.

Eastern would not go down without a fight, and a free-throw by Garbova brought the lead down to eight at 57-49, but they could not get another run together.

A Doss layup made the score 62-49 and the Lady Colonels never looked back running away with a 79-69 victory.

whether a team likes it or not.

So this means Eastern must face Austin Peay, Tennessee State and Murray State a second time along with the other teams in the OVC that they haven't played yet.

And it is quite obvious that there are no guarantees in the game of college basketball – as if there are guarantees in anything.

It should be interesting to see if the men's basketball team will

be able to keep pace with its current success, as the Panthers attempt to make a run for a trip to Music City Madness in Nashville, Tenn. at the end of February. For those of you who don't know, Nashville is the site of the Final Four of the OVC tourney.

Whether or not the Panthers are playing the tune of victory come March is a topic that should be left untouched until that time comes.

Eastern Kentucky was balanced in scoring, as four starters and five total players reached double figures. But Colonel head coach Mike Calhoun was disappointed with the play of his middle men.

"When you have a junior center from Louisville going up against a freshman, you expect him to have an advantage," he said. "But he (Eastern's John Smith) started getting inside and hit that turn-around shot, and that hurt us."

Smith shot 5-for-7 from the field for 12 points. He also hit both of his free throw attempts.

Rick Kaye led the team with 19 points. He scored Eastern's first 11 points in the first five minutes of the game.

It was Kaye's offense that kept the Panthers close in the beginning of the

game.

The Colonels scored the first six points of the game on two three-pointers, but Kaye answered.

"Rick's our best scorer out there, and he had a hot hand early so you want to get him the ball," Peckinpough said.

Eastern battled back, and had the lead for the first time with 9:23 left to play in the first half.

From there, the Panthers outscored the Colonels 26-9 to go into halftime with an 18-point lead.

"In the first half of the past two or maybe three games we get a burst of points at the end of the first half," forward Idris Osei-Agyeman said.

Samuels said he would like to see the trend continue.

## FLURRY *from page 12*

Samuels said his players' ability to play as a team was a one of the positive aspects of the Panthers' run.

"The chemistry of it was what I liked," he said. "We did some things that helped us and it comes from knowing what to expect from your teammates."

Besides Eastern's chemistry, playing without Carlos Bess was a factor in Eastern's Kentucky's struggle against the Panthers. Still, Calhoun said it

should not have been an excuse for the loss that leaves Eastern Kentucky at 2-3 in the OVC.

"Yeah, we were shorthanded; big deal," Calhoun said.

"We had to play with a rotation of eight players and someone had to step up, but nobody did."

Despite being shorthanded, Eastern Kentucky managed to pull within five late in the game before the Panthers closed the door on the ballgame.

"If we keep having a run like that, people will have trouble beating us," he said.

The Panthers were also balanced offensively with three players in double figures, two players with nine and two with eight.

Peckinpough dished out 13 assists in the game, and said he was doing his job.

"We've got a lot of great athletes and great scorers out there to get the ball to, and as the point guard it's my job to distribute the ball," Peckinpough said.

The Panthers now take to the road for the next three games, a trip Samuels said will not be an easy one.

"These next three will be the toughest stretch in the season," he said. "One reason for that is the size (we'll be going against). That hurts us at the offensive end as much as the defensive end."

## NCAA votes for major changes

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) – In a radical departure for the slow-to-change NCAA, delegates voted Monday after more than an hour of confused and bitter debate to let Division I athletes hold part-time jobs.

Then, with a suddenly influential student-athlete advisory committee still exulting over that vote, delegates also decided to grant a fourth year of eligibility to partial qualifiers who get a degree in four years.

Both concepts had been voted down by previous conventions. But, in this last full NCAA convention before the organization assumes an entirely new system of governing college athletics, delegates took what could be the first steps toward a new era of cooperation between athletes and ath-

letic administrators.

Letting athletes work part-time is the most revolutionary legislation the NCAA has adopted in years.

"This is a major shift in concept for this organization," said Sam Smith of Washington State, chairman of the NCAA Presidents Commission. "For years we've said we will not provide any additional funding in any way from any source."

"The NCAA is trying to move toward a recognition that students play a larger role than they've had the last several years. We made some progress today into where we need to be." Earlier Monday, delegates cruised through the final pieces of legislation that put the new governing structure in place.



# Sports



**BRIAN LESTER**  
Sports editor

## Panthers doing the unexpected; winning games

Trying to come up with a column idea after a long holiday break is like trying find a period of time over the last couple of football seasons when Cowboys wide receiver Michael Irvin has not been in legal trouble.

But even Dallas' premier problem child has been a good little Cowboy every once in a while, and thanks to the somewhat surprising success of Eastern's basketball team, I have something to put down on paper.

You see, the Panther men's basketball team headed, or shall I say stumbled, into the Christmas break on a two-game losing streak and the odds of them returning from the break with a .500 record or better were hardly what I would call favorable.

I mean, before the break started, this was a Panther team that had as much trouble holding leads in games as I would have trying to unscrew a light bulb bare-handed that has been on for 10 hours.

Yet, the Panthers did something surprising to say the least - I for one didn't think Eastern would win more than three games over the break - and came away with a 5-3 mark over the last month, going 3-1 in Ohio Valley Conference action to put themselves in a tie for first place in the conference.

Yes, this is not a misprint, I said first place my friends. Not too bad when you think about the fact that Eastern was picked to finish eighth in most of the preseason polls.

Of course, there is a reason for everything and either the nothing short of surprising playoff success of Jacksonville is contagious or this Panther team is actually starting to come together and play as a unit.

In order to give credit to the basketball team and avoid offending those of you out there who don't believe in luck, I'll opt for the latter.

Yes, Eastern did lose to conference favorite Austin Peay while also falling to Santa Clara and St. Louis. Then again, these were all teams that should have beaten the Panthers.

On the other hand, the Panthers managed to beat two teams picked to finish in the upper half of the conference in Tennessee State and Murray State with Tennessee State being picked to finish second and Murray State being picked to finish fourth. As of right now, Tennessee State has yet to win a conference game while Murray State is 2-2 in OVC play.

Eastern's most recent "W" came via a 84-77 win over Eastern Kentucky, meaning the Panthers now have their longest winning

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## Panthers climb to top of OVC

### Win over ECU puts Eastern in first-place tie

By JOSH HARBECK  
Associate sports editor

Yes, Eastern Kentucky made it close in the end, but the Panthers held their lead and turned back the Colonel rally to win 84-77.

Eastern Kentucky trimmed a 21-point second-half deficit to five before Panther free throws put the game away. The win gave Eastern (7-6 overall, 4-1 in the Ohio Valley Conference) a perfect 3-0 home stand, and also a share of first place in the OVC.

"It's nice to get out to a good start and establish ourselves," Eastern guard Chad Peckinpugh said.

The Panthers had a big lead in the second half, but the Colonels came back to give the Panthers a scare.

Eastern coach Rick Samuels said the team simply got tired.

"We were fatigued from the long haul (three games in five nights)," he said. "There's a lot of

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CHET PIOTROWSKI JR/Photo editor

Eastern's John Smith goes up for two against Eastern Kentucky Monday night during the Panthers' 84-77 conference win. The victory completed a three-game home stand sweep and gave the Panthers a share of first place in the Ohio Valley Conference.

## First-half flurry keys Panther victory

By BRIAN LESTER  
Sports editor

There are times when one spurt of offense can make the difference in a ball game.

And in Monday night's Ohio Valley Conference affair in Lantz Gymnasium with the Colonels of Eastern Kentucky, a nine-minute momentum-shifting run proved to be the difference in the contest.

Eastern's hoops team, now owning a share of first place with Middle Tennessee in the OVC at 4-1, took full advantage of a 24-7 run over the last 9:04 of the first half to coast to a commanding 45-27 advantage at the break.

The advantage eventually led to an 84-77 victory for the Panthers despite the Colonels' attempt to make a comeback.

"That was a great 10 minutes," head coach

Rick Samuels said after Monday night's win that left the Panthers at 7-6 on the season.

Eastern Kentucky head coach Mike Calhoun did not hesitate to mention that the Panthers' first-half run ended up costing his team the ball game.

"We can't get in a hole like that," Calhoun said in reference to the 18-point deficit his Colonels were looking at by the time Eastern's offensive outburst was over. "We played well in the first 10 minutes but after that we didn't respond to them. The 13 turnovers didn't help."

It was not just the turnovers, though, that proved detrimental to Eastern Kentucky. A balanced scoring attack also tilted the momentum in Eastern's direction.

During the run, which began with a lay-in by point guard Chad Peckinpugh, eight dif-

ferent Panthers contributed with Idris Osei-Agyeman's five points leading the charge.

After Peckinpugh scored, Jason Sowers knocked down a shot from beyond the arc that was followed up by baskets by both Osei-Agyeman and Conya Robinson, giving Eastern a 30-23 lead with just over six minutes left in the half.

Osei-Agyeman's three-pointer then pushed Eastern's lead to 10 at 33-23. The highlight of the run came via a Rick Kaye dunk that brought the crowd of 2,284 to life and forced a Eastern Kentucky timeout, as the Panthers led 37-27 with just under three minutes left to play.

From that point, the Panther defense kept the Colonels off the scoreboard en route to taking the 45-27 halftime lead.

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## Lady Panthers fall, break two-game streak

### Colonels send Eastern below .500 for season

By MATT WILSON  
Staff writer

The Eastern Kentucky Lady Colonels shot down the Lady Panther basketball team's two-game winning streak, defeating them 79-69 Monday night at Lantz.

"It just seemed like every time we got close Eastern Kentucky had an answer and it would be an eight or 10 point game again," head coach John Klein said.

After two free-throws by junior guard Nora Hendrix put Eastern up 2-0 to start the game, Eastern Kentucky (8-4 overall, 4-1 in the Ohio Valley

Conference) went on a 12-0 run. Junior guard Trina Goodrich scored eight of the 12 points in the run, which was finally stopped by five straight points by junior center Allison Lee.

A jumper by sophomore forward/center Shannon Browning extended the Lady Colonel lead to 21-7 and the Panthers got a much needed television timeout.

After the timeout, Eastern (6-7 overall, 2-3 in the OVC) started to cut down on the 14-point deficit. OVC player of the week Barbara Garbova started an 11-5 Eastern run with a three-pointer.

Influential in the run were four free-throws by Lee and one of three three-point baskets by sophomore guard Angie Patzner, making the score 26-

21. But the Lady Colonels had an answer for the Eastern run. After the Panthers cut the lead to five points, Goodrich made two jump shots and junior guard Chrissy Roberts made a jumper which brought the lead back up to 11 at 32-21.

Eastern clawed their way back into the game and after freshman center Leah Aldrich made a jumper, the Lady Panthers made it a six-point game at 33-27.

Eastern scored the last five points of the half to bring the game to within 37-32.

"At halftime I told the girls that they needed to do a better job on the boards and offensively they needed to do a better job of spacing to stretch out the Eastern Kentucky defense," Klein said.

Another problem in the first half was the 11 turnovers that Eastern had.

"We knew they were going to pressure us and we just began rushing things," Hendrix said.

"We should have passed the ball because we dribbled way too much. We just panicked."

Eastern started off the second half on fire.

A three-pointer by Garbova brought the Panthers to within three and then a free-throw by Garbova made the score 41-39.

After a free-throw by Lady Colonel junior forward Laphelia Doss made the score 44-41, Panther sophomore forward Amanda Garretson hit a jumper to bring the Panthers to within one.

But that was as close as they would get.

Eastern Kentucky went on another 12-0 run to make the

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